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Items for the Daily Log - 9 June 1953

Legislative Counsel

1. Colonel White, Mr. Saunders and I met with Mr. Sprankle, Chief Clerk House Appropriations Committee, to ascertain whether Congressman Taber or the Committee would give some expression of endorsement to bringing CIA into one building, particularly in view of the fact that we had eliminated any funds for construction for a new building from this year's budget. Mr. Sprankle pointed out that this was primarily a function of the Executive Branch, which the Legislative Branch should not get into, as he felt that we might primarily be attempting to use the Committee as a weapon to coerce the Executive into giving us a building. Colonel White assured him that this was not the case as the Bureau of the Budget was agreed that we should have a building. Mr. Sprankle concluded that at such time as we had a more concrete proposal or alternative proposals for a definite building, with at least a preliminary estimate as to the cost of the move, we might again raise the question with him or the Chairman, who would then be more in a position to pass on the merits of the particular scheme in the line of its costs as against ultimate savings.

2. Colonel Orval Burroughs requested an appointment with Legislative Counsel to discuss the current hearings on psychological warfare before the Military Appropriations Subcommittee of the House Committee on Government Operations. Colonel Burroughs stated that the Air Force's witnesses (and in particular General Thatcher and General MacCloskey) had, in his opinion, far exceeded the necessary scope of matters they were called upon to testify and had gotten into top secret evidence which in some measure involved CIA. In particular, they had talked about [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] While both these statements appeared to be off the record, Colonel Burroughs felt that a CIA representative should review the transcript to delete any sensitive CIA material, although there is no present plan to print any of the hearings. Colonel Burroughs requested Mr. Balwan, Staff Director, for permission for me to review the testimony and secure the Chairman's clearance, and Chairman Riehlman agreed that it would be highly advisable for me to read the transcript. I have read a part of it and will read the rest shortly. Colonel Burroughs, who was formerly with OSS, who is the Legislative Project Officer for this hearing for the Department of Defense, will keep me advised on all aspects of the testimony and the direction in which the testimony is going, as CIA should be most anxious not to become involved in these hearings.

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